

---

## **AGENDA ITEM: Good Cause Extension Request – Choice Academy, Inc.**

### **Issue**

Choice Academy, Inc. was granted a charter on January 14, 2008 to serve grades K-8 with an identified start date of August 18, 2008. As part of the application, the applicant agrees and signs a statement acknowledging that the charter contract must be executed within twelve months of the date of approval.

As a condition to signing the charter contract, the approved applicant must provide proof of a secured facility. Due to the timeframes that it is taking to enter into a lease agreement, Choice Academy, Inc. is requesting a Good Cause Extension to the signing and execution of the charter contract to begin providing services for the 2009-2010 school year in a temporary facility.

If the Board approves the extension of the signing and execution of the charter contract, Board staff shall review the approved application and the current application administrative checklist to determine whether additions or substantive changes are necessary to bring the application current with policy, rule, state or federal law. The approved applicant must submit the requested changes to the Board staff 90 days prior to the opening of the school. State aid funding will not initiate until the Board staff have determined that the requested submission is complete and sufficient and all other requirements of the Board have been fulfilled.

### Policy Statement for a Good Cause Extension to the Charter Contract

#### **Communications with School**

On October 7, 2008, a letter was sent to the charter representative notifying them of the pending expiration of the approved charter.

On December 16, 2008, the Board received the request for a Good Cause Extension for Choice Academy, Inc.

#### **Board Options**

If the Board determines that the extension should be granted, the motion should include the length of time for the extension to sign the charter and a requirement that the approved applicant submit any documentation necessary to bring the application current with policy, rule, state or federal law at least 90 days prior to the signing of the contract.

1. Approve the Good Cause Extension to the signing and execution of the charter contract for Choice Academy, Inc. until August 31, 2009 with a planned opening date of Fall 2009-2010 and that the applicant submit any documentation necessary to bring the application current with policy, rule, state or federal law at least 90 days prior to the signing of the contract.
2. Deny the request for a Good Cause Extension. If the request is denied, the applicant has the option to reapply for a charter through the application process.

#### Staff Recommendation

Staff's recommendation is option 1 above.

RECEIVED DEC 16 2008  
ah

December 14, 2008



**CHOICE  
ACADEMY**

18443 North 46th Ave  
Glendale, AZ 85308  
phone: 602-938-7989  
choiceacademyaz.org

Arizona State Board for Charter Schools  
Heather Kelley  
1700 W. Washington  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Ms Kelley,

Choice Academy, Inc is requesting a Good Cause Extension for the signing of the charter contract. The reason is that we are in the process of negotiating a lease for the 2009-2010 school year with Cathedral Christian Center located at 16635 N. 51<sup>st</sup> Ave. We anticipate to have a lease signed by the end of January.

We are still working with Charter School Fund in working on a lease to develop the county land located at 39<sup>th</sup> Ave and Deer Valley Road in Phoenix. However, due to the extended amount of time in the negotiation of the lease with the county, this site will not be available until 2010.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 602-938-7989 or [llfink@cox.net](mailto:llfink@cox.net).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Fink".

Lisa Fink, President  
Choice Academy, Inc.

## Arizona State Board for Charter Schools

1700 W. Washington Street, Room 164  
Phoenix, AZ 85007



Phone: (602) 364-3080  
Fax: (602) 364-3089

October 7, 2008

Lisa Fink  
Choice Academy, Inc.  
18443 N. 46<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Glendale, AZ 85308

Dear Ms. Fink:

This letter is to inform you that the approved charter application for Choice Academy, Inc. expires on January 14, 2009. As stated in the charter application that was signed by you on December 4, 2007, "The charter school applicant acknowledges that if approved to operate a charter school, he/she must execute a charter contract with the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools within twelve months of the date of approval of the charter by the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools. A charter that is not timely signed expires."

Choice Academy, Inc. may request a Good Cause Extension for the signing of the charter contract, if a request is submitted no later than December 19, 2008. If you fail to request a Good Cause Extension, the approved charter will expire January 14, 2009 with no further notice. You may submit a new application during the new application cycle if you choose to re-apply.

Please feel free to contact me at 602.364.3080 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Heather Kelley  
Contracts & Administrative Services Manager